

## ALBANY.

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STATE AID TO RAILROADS—RAID OF CANAL  
THIEVES ON THE TREASURY—THE LAST JOB  
OF THE TAMMANY CHIEFS—THE CONSTITU-  
TIONAL AMENDMENT.

ALBANY, March 14.—There was not a quorum in the Assembly yesterday morning, yet the members present transacted considerable business, and sent bills to the engrossing clerk with more than usual rapidity. It is due to this Legislature to say that it has advanced business faster than the two last bodies which met here. The time lost in the Senatorial contest and in the two February adjournments has been made up since the members came back.

The bill granting State aid to railroads has been through a Committee of the Whole, but its first section has not been approved yet. This bill is known as the \$4,000 a mile project. Every railroad contemplated or projected in the State is to get \$4,000 per mile. There are 935 miles of road which will claim

the benefits of this bill if it becomes a law. By the provisions of this measure \$1,300,000 is to be given away this year, and the same amount next year. This sum is to be divided *pro rata* among the roads asking for it. The measure was championed by ex-Senator Truman, Judge

Campbell, Mr. Lyons of Orange, and Mr. Hitchman of New-York. The first two gentlemen asserted that the State would make money by giving this appropriation. The taxable property would be increased five times the amount expended, as the bill specifies that no road running parallel within 12 miles of

another road shall be entitled to its ratio. Mr. Davis of Orange moved to amend so that the restrictions shall not apply to any railroad running through Orange County. Mr. Husted of Westchester earnestly urged this amendment and all other amendments, because they would defeat the bill. Without taking

because they would defeat the bill. The bill was progressed a vote on the amendment, the bill was progressed. As there are so many railroads projected throughout the State, and as each member is anxious to take care of his pet project, there is some chance for this bill passing. Ever since the bill has been on file it has been reported around the hall that the Governor

will not veto the bill, and if he does it will be only with the understanding that it is to be passed notwithstanding his objection. Your correspondent does not believe the Governor has made any such bargain, but he does believe that the Governor will veto it, and his objections will be sustained by every

Democrat in both Houses. The leaders of that party, such as Judge Allen, Senator Tweed, and others, are dead set against this kind of legislation, not because the principle is wrong, but because the burdens of the people of this State are heavy enough, and it would not be wise in the Democratic party to increase

them. Aside from the principle involved, the Republican members of the Legislature might as well understand that if they pass this bill they will be trapped. Gov. Hoffman will never approve it, and we shall see in every Democratic sheet assertions that the Republicans are profligate and spending the

Albany has been infested this year with as large a set of plunderers, commonly called canal thieves, as has been seen here for many years. They are not only brought here by the two Canal bills, but by the

large number of private claims now before both Houses, and especially the Assembly. Day after day we have reports from the Claim Committee of the latter body, giving damages to parties living along the lines of the canals, for one reason or the other, until the General orders are fairly loaded down with

them. There may be a dozen legitimate claims, but the Legislature should quickly and circumspectly sift them out, and approve them, and then bundle the others, and throw them in the stove. Most of them are brought here by swindlers, and urged by men thoroughly accomplished in all the mysteries of

secret legislation. It is possible the Committee may in many instances be deceived, because there are men on it who are above suspicion. The only way to save the State Treasury is for the Committee to get seven-eighths of these bills preferred back, and then smother them, and for Messrs. Gleason, Selkree, or

some other experienced member, to insist that they be sent there. One of these claims was up yesterday, and Messrs. Gleason and Selkreg made such a fierce onslaught on it, that the Chairman of the Committee determined not to press it.

The debate on the Constitutional Amendment will take place on Wednesday, and it is to be hoped the Assembly will finish it on that day. The Democratic and Republican leaders have agreed to discuss it thoroughly and harmoniously, and the speakers on each side are to be limited. Mr. Husted of Westchester is called upon for the Republican side, and will

chester will read on on the Republican side, and will be followed by Judge Campbell, who will answer all the legal objections. J. Bancroft Davis, Mr. Gleason of St. Lawrence, and Mr. Selkreg will close the debate. The speakers on the Democratic side will be Mr. Jacobs of Kings, Judge Miller of Seneca, Messrs.

The Tammany politicians have presented this year

their bill introduced the latter part of the session of 1868, giving the control of the wharves and piers of New-York to the Commissioners of the Sinking Fund. They are to have absolute power over this property; tearing down and building up, and, in fact, doing what they please with it. Of course it will be

pushed, but this year the hopes of the Republican party should be centered in the Assembly, for the Senate can scarcely be trusted.

NEW-YORK LEGISLATURE.

ASSEMBLY....ALBANY, March 19.

The following bills were ordered to a third

reading: to amend the law relative to the charter of the East India Telegraph Company; authorizing Judges of Kings County Courts to send prisoners sentenced for less than five years to imprisonment in the County Penitentiary; in relation to the poor statistics; for paving Brunswick-ave., Brooklyn; Amending the law relating to the rinderpest; for an iron canal bridge at Schenectady.

**BILLS INTRODUCED.**  
By Mr. Hodges—Incorporating the Williamsburg Safe Deposit Company. By Mr. O'Keefe—For repairing and grading Columbia-st., Brooklyn. Mr. Hodges, from the Committee on Cities, reported the bill reorganizing the Brooklyn Fire Department, previously recommitting.

Mr. WOLTMAN called up his resolution instructing the Cities Committee to report the bill authorizing the Metropolitan Board of Police to appoint one, Surgeon for

Mr. DAVIS called up his resolution for the appointment of a Joint Committee to investigate the affairs and management of the State Lunatic Asylum at Utica, which was amended by making the Committee five on

the part of the Assembly. The resolution was adopted. Adjourned until Monday evening.

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GENERAL TELEGRAPHIC NEWS.

....The military post of Camp Hamilton, near Fortres Monroe, established in 1861, has been broken up.

....A fire occurred in Chicago on Saturday.

...The ice in the Hudson has broken away above New-Hamburg, and it is expected to move at Poughkeepsie to-day.

...The emigration of French Canadians to the United States still continues, many of them leaving without disposing of their farms.

....The currier shop of William Claflin & Co., at North Becket, Mass., was destroyed by fire on Friday night; loss, \$10,000. Gov. Claflin is the principal member of the firm.

....The Jury in the case of The People agt. Dan Noble, indicted for the great Royal Insurance bond robbery in New-York, were discharged yesterday mor-

....The train from Toledo, upon arriving at Cincinnati on Saturday night, ran off the track near the depot, owing to an open switch. The locomotive was precipitated down an embankment, but the remainder of the train kept the track. The passengers were unhurt. The engineer, baggage-master, and a brakeman were

slightly injured. The fireman, Ed. Collins, had his collarbone dislocated. Thomas Wing, who was riding on the engine, had his right hand crushed, and his left one scalded.